

# Children and Disasters: Reducing Vulnerability and Building Capacity

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Lori Peek is director of the Natural Hazards Center and professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Colorado Boulder.

She studies vulnerable populations in disaster and is author of *Behind the Backlash: Muslim Americans after 9/11*, co-editor of *Displaced: Life in the Katrina Diaspora*, and co-author of *Children of Katrina*. Lori helped develop school safety guidance for the nation, which resulted in the publication of FEMA P-1000, *Safer, Stronger, Smarter: A Guide to Improving School Natural Hazard Safety*.

Lori, who is president of the Research Committee on Disasters for the International Sociological Association, has conducted long-term investigations in the aftermath of several major disasters. She is currently leading a National Science Foundation project to establish Social Science Extreme Events Reconnaissance (SSEER) and Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Extreme Events Reconnaissance (ISEEER) networks for the disaster community. She is also leading an evaluation research project for Save the Children and co-leading a National Science Foundation effort on interdisciplinary disaster research methods. Lori earned her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Colorado Boulder in 2005.